



Winter tours in Pamir

Join us in Pamir for a winter adventure in the mountains that is completely different from the typical skating, skiing, or snowboarding. Visiting the Pamirs in winter will enable you to see rare and interesting animals like the Marco Polo sheep (argali), ibex (mountain goat), wolf, fox, and the elusive snow leopard.

In addition to wildlife, you will have a great opportunity to visit the homes of nomads and experience their daily life staying with them in the Pamir Mountains. Often, we offer several different tours in winter, including a wide-ranging photo tour, and one focused on a Marco Polo sheep safari and finding snow leopards.



What will you see in winter?

Among the dramatic scenery of high snow-covered mountains and frozen rivers and lakes, you will see herds of Marco Polo sheep and ibex grazing on the high pastures, and packs of wolves hunting for them. In winter we travel on yak back crossing the winter pastures via high passes from which we can enjoy 360-degree views and spot wildlife to pursue for closer views and photos.

With some time and patience, we will find the wonderful snow leopard. December is the best season to see them, as this is their mating season. During the mating season, they make loud calls and walk around searching for mates, so you have a much better chance to see and take pictures of them.





December is also the rutting (mating) season for Marco Polo sheep and Ibex. It is fascinating to observe their fights for controlling the herd.



In winter you will also see the Nomad's traditional game of Ordo, a popular game in this region among the Kyrgyz tribes, having survived from ancient times. The word “ordo” refers to the headquarters of the khan’s (king’s) palace, and the game is a fight to conquer the headquarters. The game is played by two teams of people each and involves throwing pieces to try to knock the opposing team’s pieces out of the playing field. Every year there is a big competition among teams in Murgab district where participants come from the villages of the district.

What about food and lodging?

In the mountains we stay in a Nomad shepherd's house and in the villages in homestays. The local winter cuisine is frequently fried meat with rice and noodles. If you cannot eat this, we can carry enough food for your travel from Dushanbe or Khorog markets. Nature provides refrigeration.



How do I get to Pamir?

There are two ways to get to Pamir. The most common route is from Dushanbe via Khorog and Murgab. An alternative and slightly shorter route, possible when the border is open, is from Osh, the second largest city in Kyrgyzstan, via Murgab.

Pamir Personal Tours is owned and operated by Sherali Zhunusov.

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